

DETAILED ACTION

Response to BPAI Decision

1. The Board has reversed the rejections of claims 1-5, 7, 9, 22, and 25-29 as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Kobayashi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,460,633), the rejection of claim 23 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kobayashi et al. in view of Endo et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,581,275) and the rejection of claims 6, 8 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kobayashi et al. in view Endo et al. as applied above, and further in view of Wu et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,038,555). No rejections remain.

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

The withdrawal of the appeal as to claims 10 – 21 and 30 - 35 operates as an authorization to cancel these claims from the application or reexamination proceeding. See MPEP § 1215.03.

Accordingly, these claims are canceled.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jennifer A. Chriss whose telephone number is 571-272-7783.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 8 am - 5:30 pm, 1st Friday off.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Terrel Morris can be reached on 571 - 272-1478. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Jennifer A Chriss/
Examiner, Art Unit 1794
November 27, 2007

/Terrel Morris/
Terrel Morris
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Group Art Unit 1794